USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE | MOZAMBIQUE

# GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

SEPTEMBER 2003


*Through USAID's assistance in natural resources management and capacity building, Mozambique has made considerable advances in addressing climate change and mitigating its effects. Involving a variety of stakeholders in these efforts, especially local communities, has greatly facilitated the process, as have USAID's many partners. Furthermore, these activities have addressed poverty reduction in Mozambique, providing sustainable livelihoods while simultaneously protecting the environment.*

**Background.** In the transition from war to peace, Mozambique has identified a poverty reduction action plan that includes priority areas such as agriculture, rural economic development, and basic infrastructure such as roads, energy, and water services delivery. Working with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, USAID's efforts to address climate change in Mozambique are linked primarily to land use and natural resource management activities. Improved management of natural resources is beneficial to the climate because it leads to carbon dioxide removal from the atmosphere and carbon storage both above ground in biomass and in the soils below.

**Sector-Specific Climate Change Activities.** USAID helps protect Mozambique's resources against environmental degradation by building local capacity to manage them in a more sustainable manner. To build local capacity, USAID's partners provide training and technical assistance in land use planning, sustainable forest management, conservation of protected areas, improvement of land and resource tenure, and general sustainable agricultural techniques. For example, USAID supported community-based implementation of sustainable agriculture and agro-forestry activities across more than 200,000 hectares. These activities have resulted in erosion control and soil conservation; better soil management, including proper crop spacing and density; use of crop residues and green manure; reduced burning; crop rotations and intercropping with legumes; and integrated pest management techniques. In one example, farmers in coastal districts collect seeds from trees and grow seedlings in community nurseries. The community sells these leguminous trees to farmers for use both as a component in agro-forestry production systems and as a natural botanical pesticide for grain storage pests.

USAID has worked to increase rural incomes while conserving environmentally sensitive areas in a critical watershed that serves tens of thousands of people in Mozambique. In an area of approximately 5,000 hectares, USAID assisted over two hundred beekeepers to produce and market honey. By supporting this sustainable livelihood, USAID contributed to an increased perception among the population in the area of the value of non-timber forest products. This perception created an incentive to conserve the forest rather than clear it through burning, since burning reduces honey production. The reduced burning results in reductions of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere, as well as in increases in carbon sequestration as the trees of the forest continue to grow.

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20523
www.usaid.gov

**USAID's partners in climate change activities in Mozambique include*:**

- Africare
- Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)
- Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere, Inc. (CARE)
- Food for the Hungry
- Instituto Nacional de Investigação Agronomico (INIA)
- International Fertilizer Development Center
- International Sorghum/Millet Collaborative Research Support Program (INTSORMIL CRSP)
- Michigan State University (MSU)
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development ((MADER))
- Save the Children USA (SCF)
- World Vision

* Because partners change as new activities arise, this list of partners is not comprehensive.

For more information on Mozambique, visit the USAID Web site at:

- **http://www.usaid.gov**

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20523
www.usaid.gov